STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: April 27, 195

FROM:

SUBJECT: ROBERT AMORY, JR. - SUMMARY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Gearty
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Sizoo
Miss Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

Amory will succeed Loftus E. Becker as Deputy Director, Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He is 38 years of age; graduate of Harvard law school, where he served as professor from October, 1946 to March, 1952. He served in U. S. Army during last war and came out as Lieutenant Colonel. Has been with CIA since March, 1952. He admitted membership in American Veterans Committee in 1946-1947 and stated he resigned, "because of anti-universal military training and anti-MacArthur bias of this organization." (This organization was target for Communist infiltration.) He also admitted subscribing to "National Guardian" to be aware of Communist Party line (This publication alleged to be pro-Stalin). His wife in 1946 or 1947 made small contribution (believed to be $3) to Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; Amory indicated wife was ignorant of true composition of organization (cited by Attorney General). Bureau recently received a complaint concerning Amory's sister; complainant interpreted remarks made by sister as possibly being pro-Communist. Amory has not manifested any friendliness toward Bureau; Liaison Agent of opinion that Bureau should be circumspect in dealings with him. We may have contacts with Amory in connection with Intelligence Advisory Committee matters.

ACTION:

The Liaison Section has been briefed concerning Amory. All dealings with him will be held in a very circumspect manner.

RECORDED - 75
INDEXED - 75

I certainly agree.

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Memo to Mr. Belmont

Re: Robert Amory, Jr.
Central Intelligence Agency

DETAILS:

Reference is made to my memorandum of April 23, 1953, captioned, "Central Intelligence Agency, Administrative Changes" wherein information was set forth indicating that the captioned individual was succeeding Loftus E. Becker as Deputy Director, Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency. As set forth in the referenced memorandum, the Bureau files were being reviewed concerning Amory.

Amory, who is 38 years of age, was the subject of an Atomic Energy Act Applicant investigation conducted by the Bureau in 1952. The file reflected that Amory listed membership in the American Veterans Committee, Cambridge, Massachusetts, from 1946 to 1947. He stated that he resigned from this organization "because of anti-universal military training and anti-MacArthur bias of this organization." As you know, the American Veterans Committee was a target for Communist infiltration. This infiltration was reportedly successful in certain local chapters. In 1948 the organization adopted an anti-Communist stand. Amory also admitted that he was a subscriber to the "National Guardian" which he described as a "left-wing paper which I read merely to be aware of the Communist Party line and the extremists' views on current affairs. In no way do I support its editorial or news point of view." The California Committee on Un-American Activities described the "National Guardian" as a publication which, from its inception, was Stalinist in its staff, writers, management, and content. In his Personal History Statement Amory admitted that in 1946 or 1947 his wife made a small contribution (believed to be $3) to the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. He explained that his wife made the contribution in ignorance of the "true composition" of the organization. He indicated that his wife was of the belief that the afore-mentioned organization assisted displaced persons. The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was cited as coming under the Purview of Executive Order 9835. (116-362245)

The Bureau received information from the Los Angeles Office by letter dated April 8, 1953, indicating that Mrs. Thomas M. Sawyers, nee Leonore Amory, of Ontario, California, had been involved in a bitter argument with Mrs. Gerene Appleby Harnish, publisher of the "Daily Report" a newspaper in Ontario, California. The Los Angeles letter indicated that Mrs. Sawyers was the sister of the captioned individual. Mrs. Harnish advised the Los Angeles Office

that Mrs. Sawyers had stated to her that while she was at Vassar College she had been interested in the Spanish Revolution and that she had used Communist organizing tactics in fighting "America firsters." In response to a direct question concerning her philosophy Mrs. Sawyers allegedly stated to Mrs. Harnish that "being a liberal I am in sympathy with philosophical Communism, the Lenin type." She also allegedly stated, "My belief is from each according to his ability, to each according to his need." The information received from Los Angeles indicated that both Mrs. Harnish and Mrs. Sawyers had been active in the affairs of the Republican Party and they apparently did not get along.

The files reflect that Amory is a graduate of Harvard law school and he served as a professor at that institution from October, 1946, to March, 1952. He has been with the CIA since March, 1952. He served in the U. S. Army during the last war and came out as a Lieutenant Colonel.

The Bureau will not have occasion to have frequent dealings with Amory in his position as Deputy Director, Intelligence. Contacts with him might develop in connection with matters taken up in Intelligence Advisory Committee meetings. The Liaison Agent has met Amory, who leaves the impression of being rather officious. He has never manifested any particular friendliness toward the Bureau and in general is "cold" toward everybody, including his associates at CIA. It is the Liaison Agent's opinion that the Bureau should be circumspect in dealings with him.